Message Text

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ACTION AF-04

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FM AMEMBASSY DAR ES SALAAM TO AMCONSUL LOURENCO MARQUES INFO SECSTATE WASHDC 6476

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LIMDIS

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PINT, PO, MZ, SF, RH

SUBJECT: INFORMATION AND VIEWS ON FRELIMO FROM LONDON OBSERVER

CORRESPONDENT

REF: LOURENCO MARQUES 0813

- 1. WE READ REFTEL WITH MORE THAN USUAL INTEREST BECAUSE CITATION DAVID MARTIN AS SOURCE. MARTIN WELL-KNOWN TO EMBASSY SINCE HE WORKED OUT OF DAR FOR SO MANY YEARS PRIOR TO BEING PNGED BY TANGOV IN FEBRUARY '74.
- 2. WITHOUT GOING INTO MERITS HIS "IMPRESSIONS," WISH REMIND CONGEN THAT BASED OUR EXPERIENCE MARTIN TENDS ALWAYS OVERSTATE CASE AND BECOME VICTIM HIS OWN BIAS. THIS NOT TO SAY HE SHOULD'NT BE USED AS SOURCE, BUT HIS INFORMATION NEEDS BE PUT IN GOOD SIEVE AND SORTED OUT CAREFULLY BEFORE BLANKET ACCEPTANCE.
- 3. FURTHER, MARTIN NOT RPT NOT MOST RELIABLE OR ETHICAL JOURNALIST. BELIEVE CONGEN SHOULD EXERCISE GREAT CARE IN OFFICIAL DEALINGS. (WE LEARNED OUR LESSON THE HARDWAY.) LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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4. COMMENT: ON PARA 8 OF REFTEL, OUR IMPRESSION HERE IS THAT FRELIMO IS MORE PRAGMATIC THAN MARTIN SUGGESTS. WHILE NYERERE MAY BE ADMIRED AS INDIVIDUAL STATESMAN, FRELIMO INTIMATELY AWARE ECONOMIC PROBLEMS FACING TANGOV -- AND HOW THEY EXACERBATED BY VERY TOUGH IDEALOGICAL LINE. CARTER" CARTEJJ

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Subject: INFORMATION AND VIEWS ON FRELIMO FROM LONDON OBSERVER CORRESPONDENT

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